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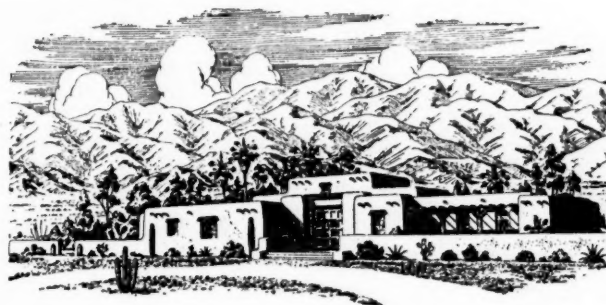
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BOOKS of the SOUTHWEST

NATURALIST EDMUND JAEGER DESCRIBES FIVE DESERT REGIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

The *North American Deserts* by naturalist Edmund C. Jaeger is the first comprehensive work ever published on all five of the deserts of this continent—Chihuahuan, Navajoan, Mojavean, Great Basin and Sonoran. The latter is subdivided into six units: the Plains and Foothills of Sonora; the Arizona Upland or Saguaro Desert; the Yuman Desert; the Colorado Desert of California and areas surrounding the upper part of the Gulf of California; the Vizcaino-Magdalena Desert of Baja California; and the Gulf Coast Desert.

Interesting and highly readable, the book bears the authoritative stamp of a man who has devoted a lifetime to the study of the subject he deals with

—a desert-specializing natural scientist generally regarded as foremost in his field. This is a text for both student and layman, and one that no library in the Southwest—public or private—will be complete without.

The need for such a book stems from the fact that each of the deserts of North America have characteristics of climate, fauna, flora and landscape that are distinctly unique. In fact, so singular are the continent's arid regions that they have prototypes in the principal deserts of the world, Jaeger points out.

The Great Basin desert and steppes are akin to the deserts and steppes of western interior Asia. The Kyzyl Kum and Kara Kum of Russia are like the drier warmer deserts of Nevada and Utah. The mountains of Iran and the

Samarkand area, the Anatolian Plateau of Turkey and the lower slopes of the Atlas Mountains in northwest Africa closely resemble the moister Salt Lake City-Boise region. The still colder Wyoming-Montana area is more like the Gobi Desert.

The Mojave Desert, with cool relatively moist winters and hot dry summers closely resembles the plateau of Iran and the northwestern part of the Algerian Sahara.

The northern Chihuahuan Desert (El Paso) is like the eastern Karroo of South Africa; the southern Chihuahuan (Ciudad Lerdo) like the Kalahari and western Angola deserts of Africa. The Nile Delta and other mild coastal deserts resemble the Vizcaino Desert of Baja California.

The Arizona Upland (Tucson) region, with mild winters, hot summers and preponderance of summer rain, finds its climatic analogues in the

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